

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2255
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C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 1532

EO11642 GDS
TAGS MOPS NATO
SUBJECT PROPOSED PRESS RELEASE FOR NAVOCFORMED EXERCISE

1. NATO INTERNATIONAL SECRETARIAT HAS CIRCULATED TO THE MEMBERS OF THE POLITICAL COMMITTEE, THE FOLLOWING PROPOSED PRESS RELEASE FOR NAVOCFORMED EXERCISE DETERMINED DEFENDERS, TO BE RELEASED WHEN NAVOCFORMED IS ACTIVATED ON MARCH 31, 1977. APPROVAL WILL BE GRANTED UNLESS DELEGATIONS SPECIFY OTHERWISE BY COB MARCH 24, 1977

2. COMMENT: PROPOSED PRESS RELEASE IS STANDARD FOR NAVOCFORMED ACTIVATIONS; WE RECOMMEND APPROVAL. END COMMENT.

3. ACTION REQUESTED: REQUEST GUIDANCE PRIOR TO COB MARCH 24, 1977. END ACTION REQUESTED.

4. BEGIN TEXT:

THE FOURTEENTH ACTIVATION OF NATO'S NAVAL ON-CALL FORCE MEDITERRANEAN (NAVOCFORMED) WILL BEGIN ON 20TH APRIL, 1977 WHEN DESTROYERS AND FIRGATES FROM ITALY, TURKEY, THE UNITED KINGDOM AND THE UNITED STATES WILL ASSEMBLE IN THE PORT OF NAPLES TO ENGAGE IN A MONTH OF INTENSIVE EXERCISES IN THE CENTRAL AND
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EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN. THE EXERCISE, CODE-NAMED "DETERMINED DEFENDERS", WILL INCLUDE TRAINING IN NAVAL GUNNERY, ANTI-AIRCRAFT AND ANTI-SUBMARINE DEFENCE, ELECTRONIC WARFARE AND REPLENISHMENT AT SEA.

AMONG THE FORCES FROM THE DIFFERENT NATIONS SUPPORTING THE EXERCISES WILL BE OILERS, SUBMARINES, CARRIERS AND SHORE-BASED AIRCRAFT AND HELICOPTERS. ADMIRAL LUIGI TOMASUOLO, ITALIAN NAVY, COMMANDER ALLIED NAVAL FORCES SOUTHERN EUROPE (COMNAVSOUTH), WILL CONDUCT THE EXERCISES FROM HIS HEADQUARTERS AT NISIDA, NAPLES.

DURING THE COURSE OF THE ACTIVATION THE NAVOCFORMED SHIPS
WILL VISIT A NUMBER OF MEDITERRANEAN PORTS. THE CONCEPT
OF AN ALLIED NAVAL ON-CALL FORCE IN THE MEDITERRANEAN WAS FIRST
INTRODUCED BY NATO ON 16TH JANUARY, 1969 AND THE FIRST ACTIVATION
TOOK PLACE ON 22ND APRIL THE FOLLOWING YEAR. THE NAVOCFORMED,
WHICH IS ACTIVATED TWICE YEARLY FOR APERIOD OF ONE MONTH, OFFERS
AN OPPORTUNITY FOR CO-OPERATION BETWEEN THE NAVIES TAKING PART
AND ENABLES THEM TO IMPROVE THEIR STANDARD OF PREPAREDNESS, TO
REVIEW JOINT TACTICS AND PROCEDURES AND TO TEST COMMUNICATIONS
PLANS. END TEXT. STRAUZ-HUPE

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<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

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